

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 03734 01 OF 02 121614Z

50

ACTION EUR-12

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USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 3734

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC, NPG

SUBJ: NPG - JULY 9 STAFF GROUP MEETING

REF: A. USNATO 3660; B. STATE 159681

SUMMARY: AT JULY 9 MEETING, NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) DISCUSSED FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO MONTEREY NPG MEETING. SG AGREED THAT PHASE III WAS MOST IMPORTANT SUBJECT, AND DISCUSSED SUGGESTION THAT NPG MEMBERS CIRCULATE PROPOSALS ON SCOPE AND APPROACH TO PHASE III. SG MEMBERS INDICATED LITTLE INTEREST IN NPG UNDERTAKING POLITICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE SHAPE NIKE HERCULES STUDY AT THIS TIME. SG ALSO DISCUSSED POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF SELECTIVE EMPLOYMENT PLANNING ON FALL AGENDA, ILLUSTRATIVE STUDIES, AND CONDUCT OF FURTHER WORK ON USE OF "WARNING MESSAGES." SG AGREED THAT FRG PROPOSAL TO HOLD ALTERNATIVE NPG MINISTERIAL MEETINGS IN BRUSSELS IN DECEMBER SHOULD BE DEALT WITH PRIMARILY AT PERM REP LEVEL AND IN BILATERAL CONTACTS BETWEEN CAPITALS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT JULY 9 MEETING, NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) HELD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF JULY 7 IS PAPER ON FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO MONTEREY
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 03734 01 OF 02 121614Z

MPG MINISTERIAL MEETING (REF A). THE HEADINGS AND PARAGRAPH NUMBERS INDICATED BELOW ARE KEYED TO THE IS PAPER IN REF A.

2. PHASE III K PARA 2). SG MEMBERS SHARED VIEW OF CHAIRMAN (SHEARER) THAT PHASE III WAS MOST IMPORTANT FOLLOW-UP ACTION TO THE MONTEREY MINISTERIAL MEETING. CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED, AS A FIRST STEP IN DEVELOPING IDEAS FOR THE PERMREPS REPORT ON INITIATION OF PHASE III, THAT NPG MEMBERS CIRCULATE IN THE SG INITIAL PROPOSALS ON SCOPE, APPROACH, AND PROCEDURES. UK REP (BEAUMONT) SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS AUTHORITIES ADVOCATING SUCH A STEP. HE SUGGESTED THAT SG MEMBERS SHOULD AGREE ON A DEADLINE FOR CIRCULATION OF PROPOSALS, AND SAID LONDON WAS THINKING IN TERMS OF END-AUGUST. CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED THAT SG RETURN TO THIS SUBJECT AT ITS NEXT MEETING ON JULY 14 AFTER MEMBERS HAVE HAD FURTHER OPPORTUNITY TO CONFER WITH THEIR AUTHORITIES. HE ENCOURAGED ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEADLINE FOR CIRCULATION OF NATIONAL PROPOSALS IF NPG MEMBERS ALL SUPPORTED THIS APPROACH, BUT URGED THAT SUCH PROPOSALS BE CIRCULATED WELL IN ADVANCE OF DEADLINE IF POSSIBLE.

3. NINN AMENDMENT (PARAS 4-5). CHAIRMAN ASKED FOR MEMBERS' VIEWS ON ANY ACTIONS NPG SHOULD TAKE ON SHAPE'S STUDY OF DEPLOYMENT OF NIKE HERCULES WARHEADS. UK, CANADIAN (BECKETT), AND FRG (MERKL) REPS QUESTIONED VALUE OF A PERMREPS MEETING ON THE SUBJECT AT THIS TIME. THERE WAS SOME DESULTORY DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE PREPARATION OF A SHORT PO OR NPG DOCUMENT PROVIDING A PRELIMINARY POLITICAL ASSESSMENT THAT MIGHT BE APPROVED BY THE SILENCE PROCEDURE. US REP (WOODWORTH), DRAWING ON GUIDANCE IN REF B, SAID US WOULD SUPPORT PREPARATION OF A POLITICAL ASSESSMENT IF OTHER MEMBERS WISHED TO DO ONE. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT UNTIL SUCH TIME AS US MAKES SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ON NIKE HERCULES, ANY POLITICAL ASSESSMENT COULD ONLY BE CONDUCTED IN GENERAL TERMS. HE SAID THAT AN NPG POLITICAL ASSESSMENT WOULD BE MORE USEFUL IF DIRECTED TOWARD ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS THAT US MIGHT, IN DUE COURSE, SUBMIT. SG MEMBERS ACKNOWLEDGED VALIDITY OF US VIEW AND, ALTHOUGH INDICATING NEED TO CONFIRM VIEWS OF THEIR AUTHORITIES, EXHIBITED LITTLE DISPOSITION TO PRESS FOR ANY NPG ACTION ON NIKE HERCULES AT THIS TIME.

SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 03734 01 OF 02 121614Z

4. COMMUNICATIONS, COMMAND AND CONTROL (PARA 6). CHAIRMAN SAID IS WOULD ISSUE A DRAFT OF LONG-AWAITED COMPILATION OF CONSULTATION PROCEDURES IN SEPTEMBER FOR CONSIDERATION BY NPG MEMBERS. SG AGREED THAT ITEMS A-C IN PARA 6 OF IS PAPER SHOULD BE DEALT WITH SEPARATELY FROM THE COMPILATION OF CONSULTATION PROCEDURES.

5. THEATER NUCLEAR OPTIONS AND CONCEPTS FOR CONTROLLED USE (PARA 7). CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED THAT IT WAS TIMELY FOR SELECTIVE EMPLOYMENT PLANNING (SEP) TO BE DISCUSSED IN THE NPG. UK REP STRONGLY SUPPORTED THIS VIEW, AND ASKED HOW SHAPE WAS COMING ON SEP'S. SHAPE REP (DAVIES) SAID WORK WAS CONTINUING, BUT THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE SHAPE WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO CONTRIBUTE

MUCH NEW INFORMATION BY THE FALL NPG MINISTERIAL MEETING. US REP SAID THAT SINCE THE IDEA OF "PRE-PLANNING" COULD CONSTITUTE AN IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION IN THE PHASE III EFFORT, HE THOUGHT DISCUSSION OF SEP'S AT THE FALL NPG COULD BE USEFUL. HE SAID THAT, GIVEN STATE OF WORK ON SEP'S, ANY SUCH DISCUSSION MAY NEED TO BE IN APPROPRIATELY GENERAL TERMS, WHICH, HOWEVER, WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH NORMAL MINISTERIAL INTEREST IN BROADER QUESTIONS OF POLICY AND STRATEGY.

SECRET

PAGE 01 NATO 03734 02 OF 02 121631Z

41

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NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

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S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 3734

6. ILLUSTRATIVE STUDIES (PARAS 8-9). CHAIRMAN SAID HE REGARDED AS AN OPEN QUESTION WHETHER THE SHAPE AIR DEFENSE ILLUSTRATIVE STUDY SHOULD BE ON THE FALL MINISTERIAL AGENDA. HE SAID PRINCIPAL AIM OF IS PAPER WAS TO KEEP OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF PREPARATION OF FUTURE ILLUSTRATIVE STUDIES, FOR WHICH HE THOUGHT THERE WERE SUFFICIENT POTENTIAL SUBJECTS TO MAKE THEM OF CONTINUING INTEREST TO MINISTERS. SHAPE REP SAID THAT IF THE NPG WANTED THE AIR DEFENSE STUDY ON THE MINISTERIAL AGENDA, SHAPE COULD PRESENT IT, SINCE ITS SOLE PURPOSE WAS TO ILLUSTRATE PROCEDURES AND WOULD NOT REQUIRE ANY SIGNIFICANT UPDATING. FRG REP RECALLED SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S COMMENTS AT MONTEREY ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE NIKE HERCULES SYSTEM. HE WONDERED IF THE AIR DEFENSE STUDY COULD PROVIDE BASIS FOR FURTHER MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION OF THIS ASPECT. US REP OBSERVED THAT KEY QUESTION WAS WHETHER MINISTERS WERE PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN "PROCEDURES" OR "EFFECTIVENESS." HE SAID HE SUSPECTED THAT MINISTERIAL INTEREST WOULD VEER TOWARD THE LATTER, AND QUESTIONED WHETHER THE AIR DEFENSE STUDY WAS A FITTING VEHICLE FOR SUCH DISCUSSION.

7. WARNING OF NATO'S INTENTIONS (PARA 10). CHAIRMAN SAID THAT

RESULTS OF MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION OF CNI AT MONTEREY INDICATE

SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 03734 02 OF 02 121631Z

THAT FURTHER WORK WAS REQUIRED ON THIS SUBJECT, AND PROBLEM WAS TO DECIDE WHO SHOULD DO IT AND WHAT FORM IT SHOULD TAKE. UK REP SAID HIS AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THAT EXAMINATION OF THIS SUBJECT COULD BE BRIEF, AND THAT A REPORT COULD BE READY FOR THE FALL NPG MEETING. HE SAID UK WAS READY TO UNDERTAKE WORK, BUT WANTED OTHERS TO JOIN IN THE EFFORT. HE SUGGESTED THAT SG REPS CONDUCT THE EXAMINATION, IN THE SAME MANNER IN WHICH THE CNI STUDY WAS PREPARED. SG AGREED TO RETURN TO THIS SUBJECT AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING TO DETERMINE IF THERE MIGHT BE VOLUNTEERS FOR A SUB-GROUP TO UNDERTAKE STUDY OF USE OF WARNING MESSAGES.

8. FUTURE MINISTERIAL MEETINGS (PARA 11). CHAIRMAN SAID NPG MUST DEAL WITH FRG PROPOSAL AT MONTEREY OF HOLDING ALTERNATE MINISTERIAL MEETINGS IN BRUSSELS IN CONJUNCTION WITH DPC. US REP SAID THIS WAS PRIMARILY A MATTER FOR PERMREPS, NOT THE STAFF GROUP. FRG REP CONCURRED, AND ADDED THAT FOCUS WOULD ALSO BE ON BILATERAL CONTACTS BETWEEN CAPITALS.

9. FALL AGENDA (PARA 12). CHAIRMAN SAID THAT THE LIST OF AGENDA TOPICS IN THE IS PAPER WAS PROVIDED FOR NPG MEMBERS TO CONSIDER AND WERE NOT FIRM PROPOSALS. HE NOTED THAT THE AIR DEFENSE ILLUSTRATIVE STUDY COULD BE ADDED TO THE LIST. HE SAID THAT A SUGGESTION HAD BEEN CALLED TO HIS ATTENTION THAT THE FULL US STRATEGIC BALANCE BRIEFING MIGHT BE GIVEN EVERY OTHER MEETING, WITH ONLY SHORT UPDATE BRIEFINGS IN BETWEEN. HE SUGGESTED THIS APPROACH MIGHT ALLOW MORE TIME TO DEAL WITH OTHER SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO MINISTERS. SG MEMBERS TOOK NOTE OF THE IS LIST AND AGREED TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS AT SUBSEQUENT SG MEETINGS. BRUCE

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